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2626
Docket No.: 55338(70868)
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kazuyuki Nako et al.

Application No.: 09/720,475

Confirmation No.: 2443

Filed: March 8, 2001

Art Unit: 2626

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS,
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, AND
MEDIUM ON WHICH IMAGE
PROCESSING PROGRAM IS
RECORDED

Examiner: M. A. V. Nguyen

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, Applicant(s) hereby make of record the following additional documents. A PTO Form SB/08 and a full copy of each of the documents required under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) accompany this statement.

Applicant(s) have become aware of the following documents, cited in a Supplemental European Search Report issued December 1, 2004, during the prosecution of EP Application No. 99925332.1, which corresponds to the above referenced application, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(c) and (e)(1) or (b)(3), hereby submit(s) these documents for the Examiner's consideration. These documents are cited on the enclosed PTO Form SB/08, and a copy of the International Search Report and of each document required under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) cited thereon are enclosed as well.

As to JP-A 57-178474 that is listed in the enclosed European Search Report, this document is not enclosed herewith because it was previously filed with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on May 8, 2003.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited documents are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any document herein be construed *per se* as a representation that such document is prior art. Moreover, Applicant(s) understand(s) the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited documents.

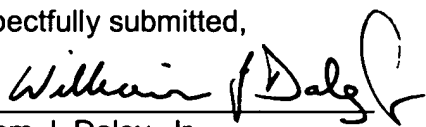
The undersigned hereby certifies that each item contained in this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Furthermore, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.704(d), Applicant(s) note(s) that to our knowledge this communication was not received by any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105, under Order No. 55338(70868).

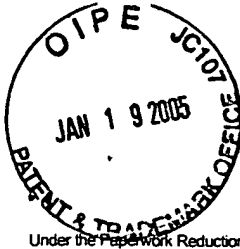
Dated: January 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By


William J. Daley, Jr.

Registration No.: 35,487
EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP
P.O. Box 55874
Boston, Massachusetts 02205
(617) 439-4444
Attorney for Applicant



Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/720,475-Conf. #2443
				Filing Date	March 8, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Kazuyuki Nakano
				Art Unit	2626
				Examiner Name	M. A. V. Nguyen
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	55338(70868)

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-5,452,374	09-19-1995	Cullen et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	EP-0 785 529 A1	07-23-1997			
	BB	EP-0 650 287 A2	04-26-1995			
	BC	EP-0 784 396 A2	07-16-1997			
	BD	EP-0 432 723 A2	06-19-1991			

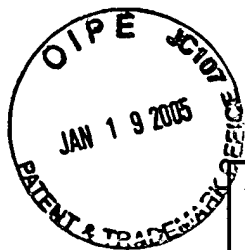
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	Jiang H-F et al.: "A fast approach to the detection and correction of skew documents," Pattern Recognition Letters, Vol. 18, No. 7, July 1997, pp. 675-686.	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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Application No. (if known): 09/720,475

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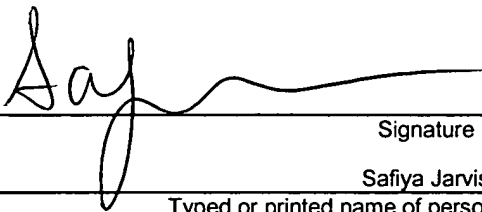
Attorney Docket No.: 55338(70868)

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on January 19, 2005
Date



Signature

Safiya Jarvis

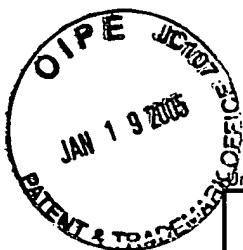
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Transmittal (1 page)
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages)
IDS (Citation) by Applicant (6 References) (1 page)
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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number 09/720,475-Conf. #2443

Filing Date March 8, 2001

First Named Inventor Kazuyuki Nako

Art Unit 2626

Examiner Name M. A. V. Nguyen

Attorney Docket Number 55338(70868)

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ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)☐ Fee Transmittal Form☐ Fee Attached☐ Amendment/Reply☐ After Final☐ Affidavits/declaration(s)☐ Extension of Time Request☐ Express Abandonment Request☒ Information Disclosure Statement☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)☐ Reply to Missing Parts/
Incomplete Application☐ Reply to Missing Parts under
37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53☐ Drawing(s)☐ Licensing-related Papers☐ Petition☐ Petition to Convert to a
Provisional Application☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation
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Appeals and Interferences☐ Appeal Communication to TC
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)☐ Proprietary Information☐ Status Letter☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please
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References)Copy of European Search Report
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Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name EDWARDS & ANGELL, LLP

Signature *William J. Daley*

Printed name William J. Daley, Jr.

Date January 19, 2005

Reg. No. 35,487